



# Regional Early-Stage Child Protection Rapid Assessment

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Southern Africa El Niño Emergency Response

March 2016

Child Protection Working Group



► *A child from Mozambique in school*

Photos and Design by: World Vision  
Cover Photo by: Charles Kabena



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## ACRONYMS

<b>CFP</b>	Country Focal Point
<b>CP</b>	Child Protection
<b>CPiE</b>	Child Protection in Emergencies
<b>CPRA</b>	Child Protection Rapid Assessment
<b>CPWG</b>	Child Protection Working Group
<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organisation
<b>DO</b>	Direct observation
<b>DRC</b>	Democratic Republic of the Congo
<b>HTP</b>	Harmful Traditional Practice/s
<b>INGO</b>	International Non-Government Organisation
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Government Organisation
<b>OCHA</b>	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
<b>OHCHR</b>	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
<b>PI</b>	PI Practitioner Interview
<b>RAG</b>	Regional Advisory Group
<b>SADC</b>	Southern African Development Community
<b>SAENER</b>	Southern Africa El Niño Emergency Response
<b>SC</b>	Save the Children
<b>SDR</b>	Secondary Data Review
<b>SEC</b>	Structured Expert Consultation
<b>UASC</b>	Unaccompanied and Separated Children
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>UNRWA</b>	Relief and Works Authority
<b>VAC</b>	Violence Against Children
<b>WFCL</b>	Worst Forms of Child Labour
<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme

# Executive Summary

## Context

Southern Africa is currently facing one of the strongest El Niño crises in 35 years, with an estimated 49 million people at risk. This El Niño, through drought, floods and sometimes both, is causing food insecurity, increased food prices, death of livestock and economic slow-down. In addition, there are significant impacts to children, not only through food insecurity and malnutrition, but through child protection concerns.

This early-stage child protection rapid assessment was initiated at the request of international humanitarian organisations working both in the Southern African region, and in the child protection sector. The objective of the assessment was to support the evidence-based programming and advocacy for countries affected by El Niño across Southern Africa. Specific objectives were to:

- Determine the scale and pattern of the needs and protection risks for children affected by El Niño; and;
- Help actors prioritise the pressing child protection issues triggered by or exacerbated by El Niño

The assessment provided an opportunity to pilot the new 'early-stage child protection rapid assessment', through a regional focus, and in the context of a slow-onset emergency.

## Methodology

For the purpose of this early-stage child protection rapid assessment, the Southern African countries included were: South Africa; Lesotho; Swaziland; Angola; Mozambique; Malawi; Zimbabwe; Zambia and Democratic Republic of Congo.

The assessment was comprised of a secondary data review, which would cover all nine countries, an online Practitioner Interview and validation through country validation workshops and a regional workshop. The Practitioner Interview has been sampled from six of the identified countries; Angola, DRC, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

Respondents were purposefully sampled from these six country scenarios and ranged from community members, to child protection practitioners, government staff and INGO and NGO staff, with a final total of 186 respondents. Quantitative data from these surveys was triangulated with the secondary data review, country validation workshops and the regional workshop in order to agree on thematic trends, prioritised issues, and recommendations.

## Key Findings

**Migration:** Just under half of the respondents agreed that children and families were migrating out of communities due to El Niño induced drought. Most cited reasons for migration were; lack of food for family members, followed by drought, unavailability of water and lack of water for family members.

**Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC):** Results showed a pattern of increased numbers of separated and unaccompanied children as a result of El Niño induced drought, although with lack of clarity in the numbers impacted. Reasons for unaccompanied and separated children centred around children voluntarily leaving, either to seek work or due to lack of food, or caregivers sending children away, again either due to lack of food or to seek work. The pattern of age was the same for both contexts, with respondents selecting that UASC are more likely to be 5-14 years old.

**Danger, Injury, Physical Violence & HTP:** As might be expected in the context of drought the biggest perceived risk to children was famine/starvation. The second highest risk was sexual exploitation and violence. Respondents reported that since the start of El Niño induced drought, parents were spending more time away from their children and children were spending more time alone at home or in their communities.

**Sexual Violence:** On issues of sexual violence and sexual exploitation just under half of respondents agreed that incidents had increased since August 2016 and the start of this El Niño. Among those respondents who did agree that incidents had increased, the pattern was that this would impact girls under the age of 14 years old. In the case of sexual exploitation, 80% of those who had agreed that it had increased since El Niño believed that sex was being traded for food.

**Psychosocial Distress and Mental Disorder:** Just over fifty per cent of respondents believed that there had been signs of psychosocial distress in children since the start of El Niño. While respondents were unable to identify positive behaviour changes, negative behaviour changes were identified including unwillingness to go to school, sadness, aggression and excessive crying. Lack of food was identified as the most significant stressor in the lives of children and adults. However, while adult's stressors focussed on losses concerning El Niño such as livestock and livelihoods, the second most rated response for children was sexual violence.

**Excluded Children:** Just over fifty per cent of respondents believed that children receive equal access to services in their communities. Of those who did not agree, the most cited reasons for children not receiving equal access were that of disability, sex (where girls were more likely to be excluded) and children from poor households

**Child Labour:** Nearly seventy per cent of respondents agreed that there were children in their community involved in child labour, with the most common forms of child labour cited as domestic work, followed by sexual transactions and working away from home. Just over half of respondents believed that child labour had increased since the start of El Niño and believed that it was more likely to impact boys rather than girls.

**School Drop-out:** Nearly eighty per cent of respondents agreed that school drop-out had increased since the start of El Niño. As is to be expected in this context, the most common reason cited was lack of food, but this was followed by children getting married and parents withdrawing children in order to seek work.

## Recommendations

This report concludes with recommendations to key audiences whose commitment can dramatically impact lives of children experiencing child protection violations during this El Niño crisis. Recommendations are for specific programmatic, advocacy and funding interventions and are addressed to five identified key actors:

1. Regional Actors, specifically the Southern African Development Community
2. Service providers, including child protection and other sectors



▲ *With drought affecting both food security and household livelihoods, children are at increased risk to child protection issues.*

3. Donors
4. National governments
5. All actors, including civil society

# Introduction and Background

Southern Africa is currently facing an unprecedented El Niño<sup>1</sup> crisis with an estimated 40 million rural and 9 million poor urban people at risk in facing food insecurity<sup>2</sup>, experiencing drought, floods or both. The current El Niño is expected to be the strongest that the region has experienced in 35 years<sup>3</sup> and will impact not only the 2015-2016 harvest, but the next harvest (2017) as well<sup>4</sup>.

El Niño is currently impacting most southern African countries, including Angola, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, South Africa, DRC, Zambia and Zimbabwe, with adverse weather leading to a delay in the planting of crops for 2015/2016. Countries across the region are at various stages of response. Four countries, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Swaziland have declared an emergency or a state of disaster, while others, such as Angola, have not yet released figures on the anticipated impact.

The impact of El Niño will take many forms. There are the obvious changes in crop growth and production. Additionally, South Africa has seen an increase in food prices, livestock death has been increasing in Lesotho, Swaziland and Zimbabwe, water shortages are impacting communities water supply, sanitation facilities, and health concerns such as cholera are increasing. There will be significant economic impacts, with high dependency on agriculture for employment, and

with rising food prices, which could pose further impacts on migration across borders<sup>5</sup>.

In March 2016 the Southern Africa Economic Community published a statement on the preparedness and response to the impact of El Niño. This is commendable, however, there is yet to be a regional declaration of emergency, despite the sign-posts that this El Niño is “progressing toward a potential regional emergency requiring a coordinated response<sup>6</sup>.”

As realisation of the impact of this El Niño grows, more regional reports for Southern Africa are being published and there is increasing media coverage of the drought situation. But, while frequency of reporting through agencies and media is increasing, very few of these sources give any consideration to the child protection impact that El Niño will have, both in these, the most critical months, and in the recovery plans.

Issued by the Child Protection Working Group (CPWG)<sup>7</sup>, this report discusses the main findings of an interagency child protection assessment. The report looks at the scale and pattern of the needs, and protection risks for children affected by El Niño. These risks are presented as prioritised children protection issues, triggered or exacerbated by El Niño. Data from online surveys have been complemented by a secondary data review and by validation workshops and a regional workshop.

This assessment is unique for three reasons; it is the first to pilot the ‘early-stage’ child protection rapid assessment; it is the first to explore the application of CPRA to a regional context; and it is one of the first to be applied to a slow-onset emergency, that is an emergency that has not

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1. *El Niño is the term used to refer to large-scale ocean-atmosphere climate interaction linked to a periodic warming in sea surface temperatures (<http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/ninonina.html>)*
  2. *This figures is excluding Angola who have yet to release figures for the impact of El Niño*
  3. *WFP Regional El Niño: Situation Report, 5 February 2016*
  4. *El Niño: Undermining Resilience. Implications of El Niño IN Southern Africa from a food and nutrition security perspective, WFP, February 2016.*
  5. *<http://www.unocha.org/el-nino-southern-africa> (accessed 17 March 2016)*
  6. *El Niño: Undermining Resilience. Implications of El Niño IN Southern Africa from a food and nutrition security perspective, WFP, February 2016, pp.1*
  7. *The Child Protection Working Group is the global level forum for coordination and collaboration on child protection in humanitarian settings.*

emerged gradually over time, but is based on a combination of different events over time. Results from this assessment then, not only provide insight into the situation of child protection priorities for Southern Africa in El Niño, but can provide lessons learned into the application of the early-stage CPRA in similar circumstances.

This final report is presented for the Southern Africa region as a whole, but may be utilised and contextualised to specific country scenarios.



▲ *In Swaziland, over 64,000 cattle have perished and, as the next major harvest will not occur until April 2017, food insecurity and malnutrition are expected to rise over the coming months.*

### Methodology

The decision to undertake an interagency Child Protection Rapid Assessment (CPRA) for Southern Africa El Niño Emergency Response (SAENER) was agreed in December 2016. This followed the onset of the current El Niño response, and the evidence that Child Protection issues were being largely underreported. As the coverage of this assessment took place in a multi-county context it was requested and agreed by the Child Protection Working Group (CPWG) Assessment & Measurement Technical Facilitator (TF), to pilot the shorter ‘early-stage CPRA’ tool for this case.

The SAENER coordinator commenced work on the 1st February with regional advisory group (RAG) members from Plan International, UNICEF, Columbia University and World Vision. Members of the RAG have experience in the Southern Africa context, Humanitarian Emergency and Assistance, or Child Protection in Emergencies ensuring sound contextual and technical advice throughout the process.

Given the breadth of Southern Africa, for the purpose of this early-stage CPRA, the countries included were: South Africa; Lesotho; Swaziland; Angola; Mozambique; Malawi; Zimbabwe; Zambia and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). It was anticipated that similarities could be expected in a few of these countries. It was agreed with regional experts, that this CPRA would include 6 scenarios, considering similarities and differences among 9 countries. These were:

1. Angola
2. DRC
3. Lesotho (representative of Lesotho, South Africa and Swaziland)
4. Malawi (representative of Malawi and Zambia)
5. Mozambique
6. Zimbabwe

The Secondary Data Review (SDR) would cover all nine countries, and for Practitioner Interview (PIs), sampling of respondents would be by the six selected ‘scenarios’. This final report is presented for the Southern Africa region as a whole, but may be utilised and contextualised to specific country scenarios.

## Sampling

PIs were designed using child protection themes to obtain quantitative information on the scale and pattern of the needs and protection risks for children affected by El Niño. Given this objective, practitioners were selected by Country Focal Points (CFP) using purposeful sampling<sup>8</sup> as the most appropriate sampling methodology.

CFPs were advised that a minimum of 30 PIs were required from each of the 6 scenarios, allowing a total sample size of 180. Where the impact of El Niño was understood to occur in more than one district/province in any one scenario, then the 30 PIs would be sampled from

each of the impacted district/provinces, ensuring responses would be representative of each scenario. Thus, if a country scenario requiring 30 PIs is impacted by El Niño in 3 districts/provinces, then these 3 areas will become sub-scenarios, with 10 respondents sampled from each sub-scenario to complete the 30 minimum responses.

CFP were advised that PIs could be sourced from national, provincial and local contexts. They were requested to forward the PI to relevant ministries including; Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women & Gender, Ministry of Home Affairs (or relevant country level ministry for police & justice), Ministry of Disaster Management (where applicable). CFP were also asked to sample from INGOs and CSOs (including community workers) and to aim for a gender quota of 50/50 men and women. While surveys would be collated using SurveyMonkey PIs could be administered face to face or using the telephone. At the conclusion of the survey there were a total of 186 responses received.

## Tools

This work piloted the new, early-stage CPRA, which is still in its draft form<sup>9</sup>. Tools used are outlined below.

## Practitioner Interview

For the early-stage CPRA the PI has been amended from the Key Informant Interview, used in the CPRA. The survey was delivered using the online platform of SurveyMonkey, and was made available in English, French and Portuguese for respondents. Field testing was done by English, French & Portuguese speakers and modifications were made prior to its public availability.

The survey was designed around agreed CPWG thematic areas (migration, unaccompanied and separated children, danger and injury/physical violence, sexual violence, psychosocial wellbeing, excluded children, child labour and school dropout). CFP were asked to forward the SurveyMonkey survey link to the practitioners they had selected. Where selected practitioners did not have access to internet or email the CFP provided hard copies for completion or conducted the interviews themselves, transcribing to the hard copy. Where hard copies were completed the data was scanned or emailed to the early-stage CPRA coordinator, who nputted the data into SurveyMonkey. This ensured that all responses were available for analysis on the same online platform.

The online survey was open from Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March until Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016.

## Secondary Data Review

Secondary data was reviewed for all nine countries identified as Southern Africa for the purpose of this work. Data reviewed included both information prior to El Niño, and from August 2015 onwards. Information was sought from CFP and from INGO and UN representatives' in-country. Data was included, but was not limited to:

- World Food Programme (WFP) reports
- Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) reports

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8. *Purposeful sampling refers to purposefully identifying participants for a sample who will provide information rich response, such as child protection workers.*

9. *Of the tools recommended in the pilot, Direct Observation was listed optional tool for the early-stage CPRA but given the number of scenarios and limited time and capacity it was not included in this pilot.*

- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) reports
- Assessment reports by operational agencies
- Child Protection or other Protection cluster or working group publications
- Recognised international, regional and national news reports

Given the need to sample secondary data across nine countries, data review was based on available data and acceptance of a “good enough” analysis by the early-stage CPRA coordinator. Secondary data was analysed according to identified CP themes and through the CPWG SDR Excel spreadsheet. Each document was coded into the identified themes and analysed for the frequency at which each issue is reported in the identified reporting period. The quantification of codes was accompanied by more qualitative review of issues through the data review, highlighting emerging CP issues, changes in patterns of CP issues and anticipated impact of El Niño for CP in Southern Africa.

### Validation Workshop

For the purposes of a multi-country, regional assessment this early-stage CPRA was advised to include six scenario validation workshops, to be held for Angola, DRC, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. For this workshop 3-5 practitioners<sup>10</sup>, who had completed the survey, were invited to attend a workshop facilitated by CFP. The validation workshop sought to build consensus on what were the key CP issues identified through the PI, and were asked to discuss and agree programmatic and advocacy recommendations for these key CP issues. CFP were provided with analysis of the regional PI data prior to holding their validation workshops.

During the process of the assessment five validation workshops were held, the exception was Angola who was not able to complete their assessment.

Following from the scenario validation workshops, country focal point (CFP) representatives were invited to the structured expert consultation where they discussed the priority CP issues and recommendations, as agreed in their scenario validation workshops.

### Structured Expert Consultation

CFPs, members of the Regional Advisory Group and the early-stage CPRA coordinator worked together in a structured expert consultation to agree on the regional thematic findings from the SDR, PIs and validation workshops. Once agreed the group prioritised the top three child protection issues, based on data and consensus. Finally, the group discussed and agreed programmatic, advocacy and funding recommendations to address the issues identified.

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10. Where sub-scenarios are included, participants of the validation workshop included practitioners from each of the sub-scenarios.

## Limitations

### Limitations in the Scope of the Assessment

This early-stage CPRA was limited in its remit to apply a single country methodology and tools, into a regional context. Combined with a pilot of the early-stage CPRA this meant that the assessment could not be completed with the rigour of a one country CPRA. As the CPRA coordinator role was based remotely, there was a heavy reliance on the CFP to ensure that quality PIs were sought from the requested sample guidelines.

The early-stage CPRA has yet to be approved and shared as a recognised tool, this meant that in some contexts, participants and respondents equated this rapid assessment tool with the regular CPRA.

Unlike many CPRAs this assessment was held over nine countries, which did not have a uniform declaration of emergency, or uniform active protection clusters. This meant that seeking quality evidence in the SDR, as relevant to CP during El Niño, was a difficult task. Ideally, CPRA should happen through the cluster (or working group if cluster not activated) and not the perception that this is through individual agencies, to ensure endorsement by all key CP stakeholders.

The use of SurveyMonkey has both positive and negative considerations. While analysis and consistency was much easier through this tool, the online tool proved difficult to administer across six scenarios with various levels of internet connectivity. While CFP were tasked to sample from requested scenarios and sub-scenarios the reality of the survey meant that responses were often limited to a district level. This could actually discourage community engagement, which is a critical source of information in CPRA.

Feedback from CFP was that the online tool could be seen as a deterrent for practitioners, for whom reliable internet connectivity, which they need to complete the survey, was not always possible. This can also result in a higher number of skipped respondents, when compared to face to face Key Informant Interviews where answering questions, or clarification of points of contextualisation, is easier to complete.



▼ *Lactating mothers waiting for their monthly rations in Nyanyadzi in Chimanimani Districts in Zimbabwe.*



# Findings and Analysis

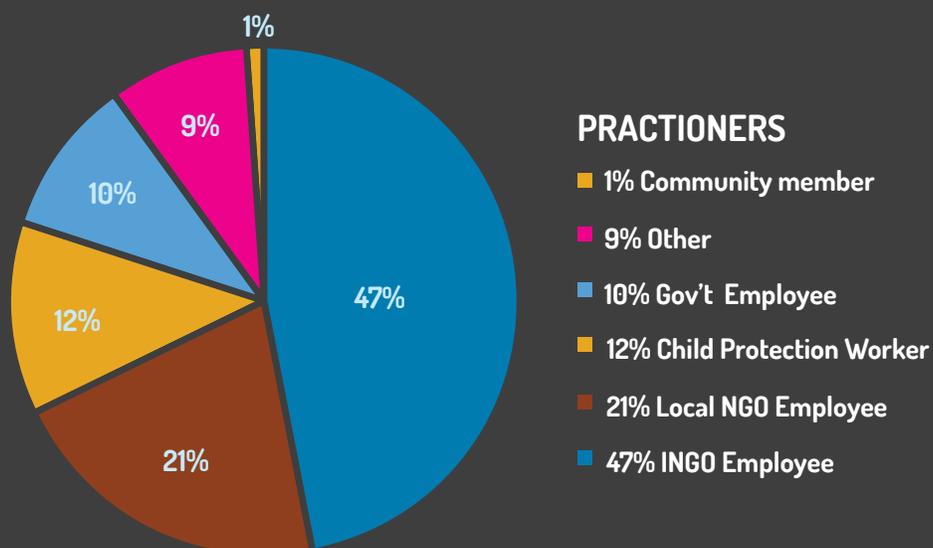
There were 186 responses across the six scenarios. Responses per scenario are listed below:

Table 1: Number and percentage of responses by scenario	
Scenario	Responses (number and percentage)
Angola	26 (14.52%)
DRC	39 (20.97%)
Lesotho	28 (15.05%)
Malawi	28 (15.05%)
Mozambique	38 (20.43%)
Zimbabwe	27 (14.52%)

A total of 50.32% of respondents were from rural environments and 45.16% were from an urban environment, with the remaining 4.52% listed as other, including semi-urban areas. Respondents were responding on the issue of drought (61.94%) while nearly a quarter were responding on both drought and flood emergencies (24.52%). Only 13.55% discussed the issue of flood only.

As discussed earlier in this report, a limitation in the study was in the diversity of practitioner responses. Nearly half of the responses came from INGO employees, with 1% of SurveyMonkey online responses from community members.

Figure 1: Percentage of respondents by type



## Migration

The recent WFP report, *El Niño: Undermining Resilience, Implications of El Niño in Southern Africa from a Food and Nutrition Security Perspective*, highlighted several forecasted risks for El Niño, including in the impact of increased migration potentially through DRC, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. The data collected goes some way to confirming that children are migrating out of communities (47.74%). However, the data is unable to identify the numbers of families who have migrated with the most common response of 'I don't know' (37.5%) followed by estimated numbers of 1-10 (18%), 11-20 (16.7%) and 51-100 (15.3%).

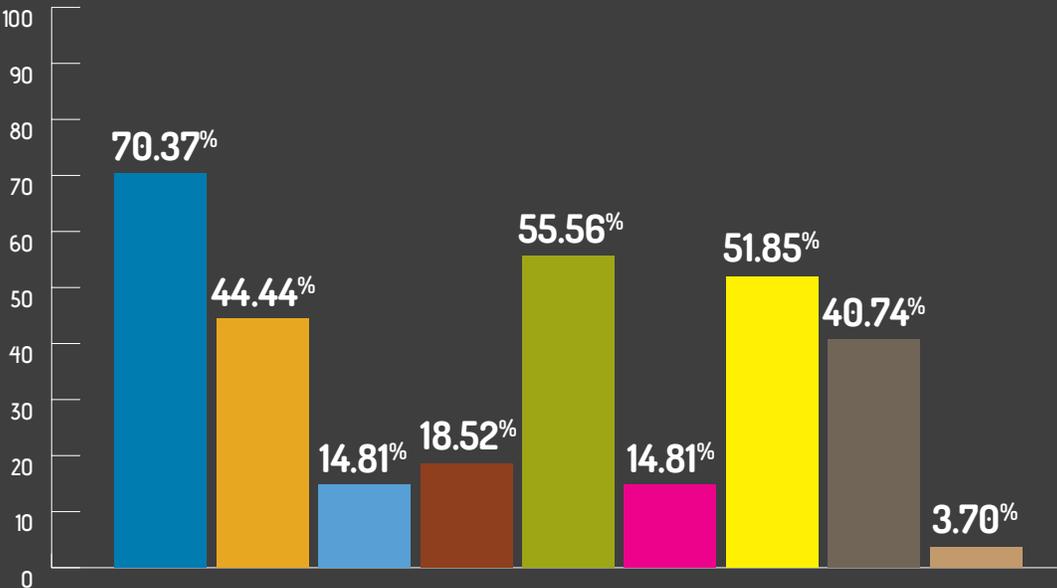
The most commonly listed reason for migration was lack of food for family members, followed by drought, unavailability of water and lack of water for family members, illustrated below.

Of the six scenarios that have responded five indicated that it was more likely that families were migrating as a result of El Niño. The one scenario with an exception to this is DRC.

Figure 2: Reasons for migration since the start of El Niño

**REASONS**

- 70.37% Lack of food
- 44.44% Failed crops
- 14.81% Death of livestock
- 18.52% Floods
- 55.56% Drought
- 14.81% Criminal acts
- 51.85% Unavailability of work
- 40.74% Lack of water
- 3.70% Others



**Unaccompanied & Separated Children**

For the purposes of this survey the international definitions of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) included in the survey for clarity for practitioners. These definitions are; unaccompanied children are children who have been separated from both parents and other relatives and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so such as the church, social workers or orphanages. Separated children are children, who have been separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives. This could include children accompanied by other adult family members such as grandparents, aunts and uncles<sup>11</sup>.

Data indicates that the most common reasons for separation are children are voluntarily leaving to seek work (52.8%), followed by caregivers voluntarily sending their children away due to lack of food (43%)<sup>12</sup>. Interestingly, this pattern of separation around work and food was reflected in the next two responses as well.

11. *Inter-agency Guiding Principles on Unaccompanied and Separated Children, January 2004, as cited in the Child Protection Rapid Assessment Toolkit*  
 12. *Respondents were asked to tick all that applies for this question.*



▲ Following the death of his parents, Charles with his three siblings now lives with the relatives' family. Unfortunately, his aunt couldn't afford to send him to school because of El Niño.

**Table 2: Percentage of respondents identifying main causes of family separation**

Main causes of family separation	Percentage of respondents who chose this response
Children voluntarily leave to seek work	52.8%
Caregivers voluntarily sending their children away due to lack of food	43%
Children voluntarily leaving due to lack of food	38.9%
Caregivers voluntarily sending their children due to wanting them to work	36.1%

In instances where children are separated from regular caregivers the data reported that caregivers have sent children away to stay with extended family and friends. The data is not able to give an accurate picture of the numbers of children separated, with the most common response of 'I don't know' (37.5%), where respondents were able to provide the number of children the most common source of data was in personal observation and agency records (69.7% combined).

Data for unaccompanied children is less clear cut with just over half of responses indicating that there are unaccompanied children (52%) but with the second most frequent option of 'I don't know' (31%). Respondents were still unable to detail the number of children impacted, but in the case of unaccompanied children any numerical results were more likely to be personal observation, rather

**Table 3: Age and gender differences between unaccompanied & separated children**

	Age Group	Gender
Separated	Mainly between 5-14 years old (52.8%)	No clear difference (52.8%),
Unaccompanied	Mainly between 5-14 years old (44%)	No clear difference (52.8%)

than agency data, when compared to source of data for separated children (41.6% versus 34%).

There is a clear pattern that both unaccompanied and separated children are between 5 to 14 years of age, with no gender difference noted. Given the lack of verifiable agency or government records however, it would be worth considering further review of gender differences in these groups.

When asked what services exist in the community to help unaccompanied and separated children the most common responses is services provided by an agency/NGO that deals with children (35.9%), governmental services (33.1%)<sup>13</sup> and active referral to other basic services such as health, education, water and sanitation, and food. Community based care arrangement were the fourth highest ranked with 23%. While it appears then that services are reliant on agency and NGOs, the higher response for government services and other services could be reflective of the focus on Child Protection Systems Strengthening that has recently taken place across sub-Saharan Africa<sup>14</sup>.

Secondary data on Unaccompanied and Separated Children, as relating to El Niño, focussed mainly on the scenario of Malawi where details of UASC had been shared through reports and interagency updates, particularly as they relate to children arriving from Mozambique<sup>15</sup>.

Secondary data for Malawi would suggest that migration is a result of conflict related to disagreement over the results of the latest elections in Mozambique<sup>16</sup>, however, this was not an option included in the data set; this could be considered as a limitation. The data on UASC by country scenario indicated that Lesotho was the country with the greatest number of respondents indicating separated children (73%) and then followed by Malawi (55%). This was not verified with secondary data for Lesotho and could suggest that secondary data is yet to catch up, in some cases, where practitioners are perceiving a shift in child protection issues impacted by El Niño.

### **Danger and Injury, Physical Violence and other Harmful Traditional Practices (HTP)**

The 2014 UNICEF publication 'Hidden in Plain Sight: A Statistical Analysis of Violence Against Children', highlighted the increase in all forms of violence against children around the world. The report revealed that, around 6 in 10 children between the ages of 2 and 14 worldwide are subjected to physical punishment by their caregivers on a regular basis, that nearly 70 million girls aged 15-19 had experienced some form of physical violence, and that injuries were responsible for deaths of 28% of 10-14 year olds, and 44% of 15-19 year olds<sup>17</sup>.

This pattern of physical violence was also seen through several Violence Against Children (VAC) surveys in Southern Africa, such as Malawi where almost half of all girls and two-thirds of boys experienced physical violence prior to 18 years<sup>18</sup> and through an Eastern & Southern Africa regional assessment of

13. *Given that many of the respondents were from the INGO or NGO community it is possible that this has a high rating as this is very familiar to them.*

14. *Strengthening Child Protection Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa, A working paper, Training Resources Group and Play Therapy Africa For the: Inter-agency Group on Child Protection Systems in sub-Saharan Africa, August 2012*

15. *Malawi, Humanitarian Situation Report, 2 March 2016, OCHA and the Malawi, Interagency Operational Update, 9 March 2015, UNHCR*

16. <http://reliefweb.int/report/malawi/mozambican-refugees-face-uncertain-future-malawi>

17. *Hidden in Plain Sight: A Statistical Analysis of Violence Against Children, UNICEF, 2014, pp.33*

18. *Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare of the Republic of Malawi, United Nations Children's Fund, The Center for Social Research at the University of Malawi, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Violence against Children and Young Women in Malawi: Findings from a National Survey, 2013. Lilongwe, Malawi: Government of Malawi, 2014.*

VAC which included areas of concern for violence in family and home, violence in schools and violence at work<sup>19</sup>.

The early-stage CPRA data reflects the characteristics of the El Niño crisis with the first and third most commonly cited risks that can lead to death or injury being famine/starvation (63.2%) and water borne

**Table 4: percentage of risks identified that can lead to death and/or injury of children**

Risks that can lead to death and/or injury	Percentage of respondents who selected this response
Environmental risks (home & outside)	38.2%
Civil violence	22%
Sexual violence	57.3%
Famine/starvation	63.2%
Domestic violence	42.6%
Water-borne disease	54.4%
Harmful traditional practices	30.1%
Criminal acts	26.4%
Severe corporal punishment	19.8%
Work-related accidents	14.7%
Car accidents	16.1%
Violence related to substance abuse	25.7%
Severe Neglect	52.2%
Other	5.1%
Don't Know	3.6%

diseases (54.4%). The second highest cited reason though was sexual violence (57.5%) with the fourth highest being severe neglect (52.1%).

The selection of severe neglect by respondents correlates with the types of changes seen in caregivers that were cited in the survey<sup>21</sup>. Seventy six per cent of respondents agreed that since the start of El Niño parents are spending less time with children, 64% agreed that children are spending more time alone in their home/community and 53% agreed that children are getting less food in their families compared to adults. Anecdotal discussions with CFP suggested that this pattern is evidence of parents who need to travel for work with the onset of El Niño, and who are thus more likely to leave children alone or to spend less time with them. Further research around this area could explore further the links between children spending more time alone, parents spending less time with children, and the potential links to key risks that could lead to death and injury, particularly sexual abuse and severe neglect.

Data clearly showed that respondents believed these risks to be highest at home (70.1%), followed by on the way to school (41.7%), and on the way to water collection points (36.5%), corroborating with findings from the Eastern & Southern Africa VAC review and with areas where you would normally expect to see children spending most of their times in communities.

Of note when considering the El Niño context is the ranking of risk at food collection points, at water collection points, on the way to food collection points (29%, 26.8% and 26.1% respectively). Secondary data has highlighted the danger during times of drought of children who need to travel further for water collection, exposing them to greater risk of danger and injury<sup>22</sup>. This is a situation which is already being reported in scenarios in this region both in terms of distance now to travel for water collection by children and incidents at water collection points<sup>23,24</sup>.

While aware of the risk of dangers impacting children, respondents were unable to quantify the number of deaths or the number of injuries that have occurred since the start of El Niño. Respondents

► A boy tries to build a fire to boil the harvested watermelons since their community is badly affected by the drought.



were also unable to identify whether children have been committing acts of violence since the start of El Niño with 50.7% of respondents reporting that they didn't know<sup>25</sup>.

### Sexual Violence

Sexual Violence in this survey was defined as “any unwanted sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advance, or acts to traffic a person’s sexuality, using coercion, threats of harm or physical force, by any person regardless of relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work. It can take many forms, including rape, sexual slavery and/or trafficking, forced pregnancy, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and/or abuse, and forced abortion<sup>26</sup>.

Data on sexual violence is often largely underreported<sup>27</sup> and so respondents were provided with an additional reminder stating that all responses would be kept confidential. Questions were also included not only on sexual violence, but also on sexual exploitation given that secondary data had indicated a likelihood of increased “survival sex” or sex for trade in food and other goods<sup>28,29</sup>. Sexual exploitation was described in the survey as “situations where children are paid for sexual activity in exchange for goods or money”.

19. *Assessment of Violence Against Children in Eastern & Southern Africa, UNICEF, 2005.*

20. *Respondents were asked to tick all that applies for this question.*

21. *Respondents were asked to tick all that applies for this question.*

22. *A wake up call: El Niño 's impact on children, Briefing Note, Nov 2015, UNICEF World Vision South Africa, Rapid Drought Assessment in Mopani District, Limpopo Province, 2015*

23. *World Vision South Africa, Rapid Drought Assessment in Mopani District, Limpopo Province, 2015*

24. *Drought Watch, Emergency Response Newsletter, WV Lesotho, Issue 7, Jan 2017*

25. *Single response question*

26. *CPWG, Child Protection Rapid Assessment Toolkit, 2013*

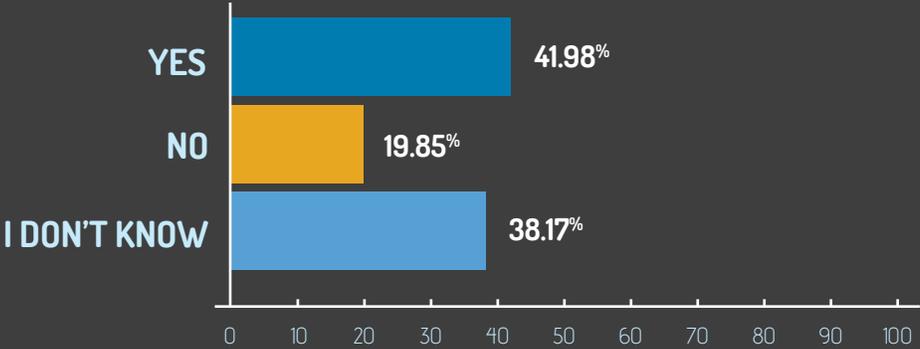
27. *Hidden In Plain Sight: A Statistical Analysis of Violence Against Children, UNICEF, 2014*

28. *CERF Proposal, Protection (UNICEF, UNW, UNFPA). June 2015*

29. *Lesotho Drought Impact Assessment Feb, 2016, PowerPoint Presentation to DMA*

Patterns of sexual violence in scenarios for this CPRA already paint a bleak picture. The Malawi VAC survey reports that 1 in 5 girls and 1 in 8 boys (both 13-17 years old) experienced sexual abuse in the previous 12 months, Swaziland reports that 1 in 3 girls and women experienced sexual abuse before the age of 18<sup>31</sup> and Zimbabwe where 33% of girls report sexual abuse before the age of 18<sup>30</sup>.

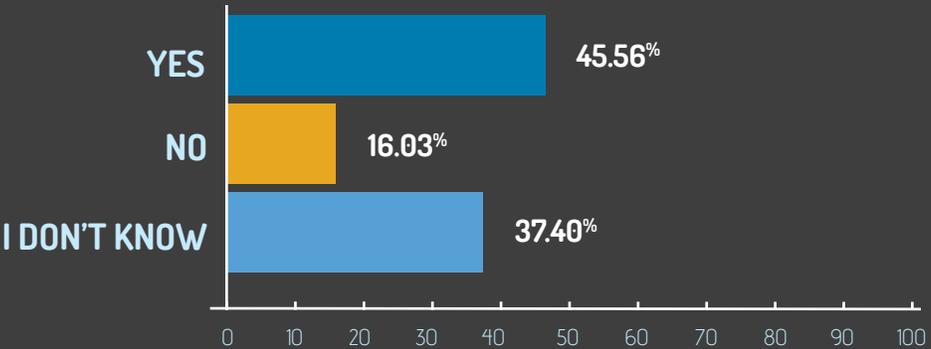
Figure 3: Percentage of respondents agreeing whether sexual violence has increased during El Niño



Looking to the PI results, when asked whether the number of sexual violence incidents had increased since the start of El Niño 41.9% of respondents said that it had. However, an additional 38.2% stated that they did not know whether it had increased. Given the demographics of respondents as mainly INGO workers it could be possible that this figure could be different had more community members been included in the survey.

Of the respondents who agreed that sexual violence had increased during El Niño the situation in which sexual violence was most likely to occur was rated as at home (63.6%), followed by while collecting

Figure 4: Percentage response identifying whether sexual exploitation has increased during El Niño



firewood, on the way to school and while playing around the village (all rated at 40%).

Respondents were slightly more likely to agree that sexual exploitation had increased since the start of El Niño (yes; 46.5% and I don't know 37.4%) and of those responding yes 83% stated that sexual activity

was being exchanged for food, followed by other (money) at 42.3% and water at 16.9%.

**Table 5: Age and sex of children impacted by sexual violence and sexual exploitation**

Sexual Violence	More girls (94.5% of respondents) and Mostly younger children, aged 14 years and below
Sexual Exploitation	More girls (89.8% of respondents) and Mostly younger children, aged 14 years and below

The most cited situation where sexual exploitation was likely to occur followed a similar pattern for sexual violence, with home (57.6%), on the way to school (40.6%) and playing around the village (38.9%) listed at the most often recorded, but then followed by at food collection points (33.9%).

Evidence seeking information on the age and sex of children impacted by these issues was the same for both sexual violence and sexual exploitation, with results confirming that this was impacting more girls aged 14 years and below.

With regards to whether it is culturally appropriate for a child victim of sexual violence or sexual exploitation to seek help 52.7% of respondents said yes and 41.8% said no. Furthermore, 58.5% of respondents agreed that there were places in their communities where survivors of sexual violence and sexual exploitation could seek professional help, and of those who agreed with this statement 94.6% further agreed that children could also seek help at these places.

Respondents were asked how people typically react to cases of sexual violence. Fifty-eight percent confirmed that typically people would involve the police/justice system, followed by punish the perpetrator (48%) and trying to mediate so the issue could be resolved ‘peacefully’ (44.9%), with full responses listed below. When these results were presented at the SEC though, stakeholders disagreed saying that in the scenarios it was unlikely to see such a high-rate of involvement of police/justice and punishment of the perpetrator. Again, given the profile of respondents this could be due to the majority

**Table 6: Percentage of respondents who how people typically react to cases of sexual violence**

Involve police/justice system	58%
Punish the perpetrator	48%
Try to mediate so that the issue can be resolved ‘peacefully’	44.9%
Managed within the family	44.9%
Involve local authorities	39.5%
Involve social welfare /social workers	34.8%
Force girls to marry the perpetrator	33.3%
Blame the child who is violated or exploited	28.6%
Provide care to the victim	20%
They don’t do anything	12.3%
Punish the child who is violated or exploited	8.5%

coming from an international INGO, NGO or government.

### Psychosocial Distress and Mental Disorders

The connection between psychosocial distress and drought is discussed in the 2014 paper, *Mental Health and Climate Change*. This paper discusses the likelihood of increased aggression with increased ambient temperatures, impaired mental health and stress, possibility of posttraumatic stress disorder and depression. Additionally, the paper discussed that migration as a result of drought or flooding could also lead to acculturation stress<sup>32</sup>. SDR reviews in the Zimbabwe scenario also suggest that those whose livelihood is directly tied to the water supply, such as farmers, horticulturalists and nursery owners, may suffer adverse mental health effects during a drought<sup>33</sup>.

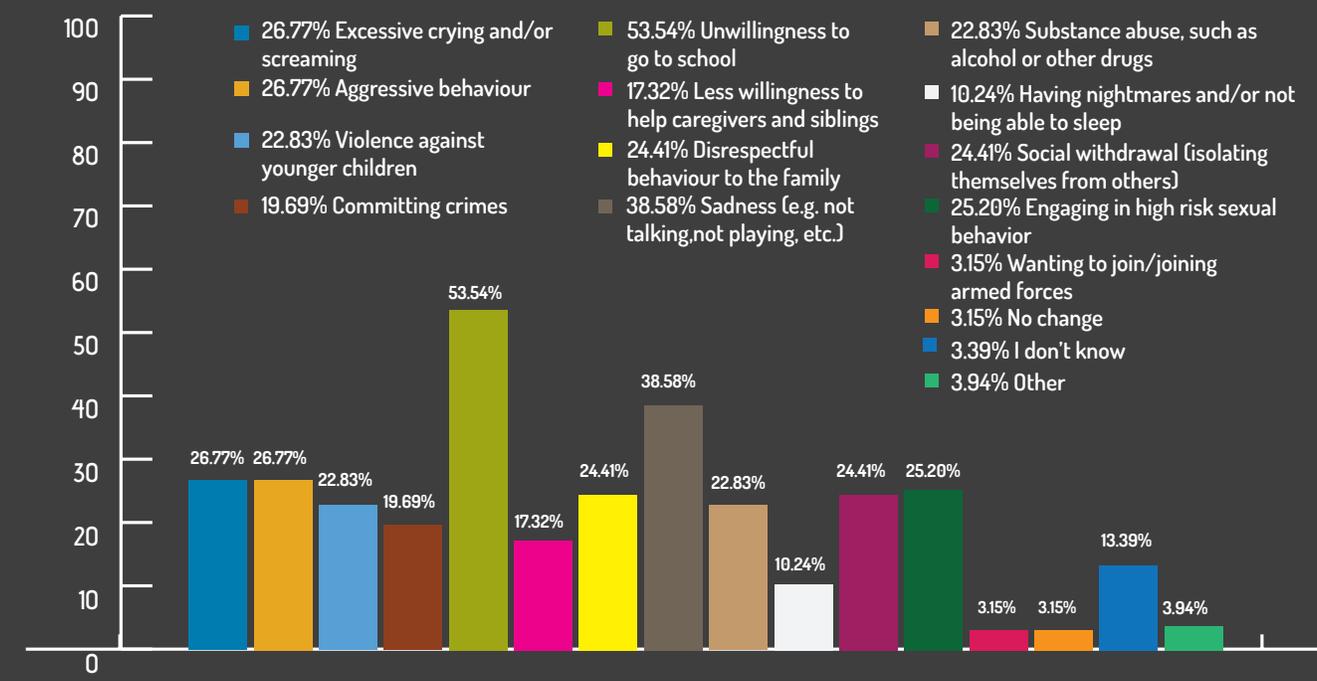
Reflecting specifically on psychosocial distress among children since the start of El Niño in Southern Africa, 58.2% said that there had been signs of psychosocial distress in children. Twenty-seven per cent said there were no signs of psychosocial distress, while 18.9% indicated they did not know.

The survey asked practitioners to consider what negative, and positive, behaviour changes they had seen in children since the start of El Niño. On the negative behaviours, the most cited behaviour was an unwillingness to go to school (54.5%), followed by sadness (38.5%) and then excessive crying/ screaming and aggressive behaviour both at 26.7%. While earlier in the survey, respondents had been unable to indicate if children were involved in violence as well as aggressiveness, two further negative behaviour changes for children and violence were mentioned in this section. These were violence against younger children (22.8%) and committing crimes (19.6%).

When asked to identify positive behaviour changes in children, respondents were more likely to choose the option “I don’t know” with 33%.

Children were more likely to suffer from stress caused by lack of food (72.3%), as were caregivers

Figure 5: Negative behaviours of children since the start of El Niño



30. United Nations Children’s Fund Swaziland, *A National Study on Violence against Children and Young Women in Swaziland*, UNICEF Swaziland, Mbabane, 2007

31. Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency (ZIMSTAT), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and Collaborating Centre for Operational Research and Evaluation (CCORE), 2013. *National Baseline Survey on Life Experiences of*

(82.1%). However, while the next most cited sources of stress for caregivers related to issues of loss such as loss of livelihood (61.7%), water (43.9%), and shelter (41.4%), for children the second highest

**Table 7: Percentage of respondents identifying positive behaviour changes in children**

I don't know	33.3%
Helping parent more than before	20.3%
Spending more time with friends	19.5%
Attending religious activities regularly/more	17%
No change	17%
Spending more time on sport and playing	11.3%
Attending school regularly/interested in education	10.5%
Caring for others in the community	6.5%
Other	4.8%

cause of stress was listed as sexual violence (53.6%), followed by being separated from their families (52.8%). These stressors identified for children, triangulate with data on UASC, danger/injury and physical violence, and sexual violence, highlighting children who are separated from their caregivers and whose greatest risks are that of lack of food and sexual violence.

Respondents were fairly equal on the question of whether there were services or activities available to support children coping with stress with 42.2% saying yes there were, 40.6% saying no there were none and 17% saying that they did not know. Those who had identified services available cited general social welfare 32.6% and children's programs (such as children's clubs) 30.7% the most frequently. Specific psychosocial interventions of group counselling and individual counselling were the least ranked with only one respondent for each.

### Access to Services

When asked whether all children have equal access to services 58.5% said that yes, all children had equal access to services, with just over a quarter not agreeing with the statement (26.8%). This is despite literature indicating that access to services such as school remains unequal in Southern Africa, especially for children with disability, girls and for orphans and vulnerable children.<sup>34,35</sup>

For those respondents who did not agree with the question that all children have equal access to services, children living with disability (51.5%), sex (42.4%) and children from poor households (39.9%) were the reasons most cited for lack of access. Respondents were unable to identify other exclusions or discrimination that children were experiencing in their community ("I don't know", 41.6%).

However, stakeholders in the SEC did not agree with the evidence from this question as presented in the PIs, highlighting that both literature and their own work, identified significant areas of inequality for children when it comes to accessing services.

### Child Labour

Eastern and Southern Africa have the highest child labour rates among regions in the world, with an estimated 36 per cent of children aged 5-14 years involved in child labour<sup>36</sup>. UNICEF child labour rates

*Adolescents, 2011*

32. *Mental Health Effects of Climate Change, 2014 Mental health effects of climate change, Padhy, S., Sarkar, S., Panigrahi, M., Paul, S.*



▲ *Mike remains hopeful for a better future even if El Nino continues to threaten the food security in his community.*

across the scenario countries within this early-stage CPRA range from 15% in the DRC to 25.7% in Malawi.

Questions were designed to ensure that Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) were included, adhering to recent research to include WFCL in CP assessments<sup>37</sup>.

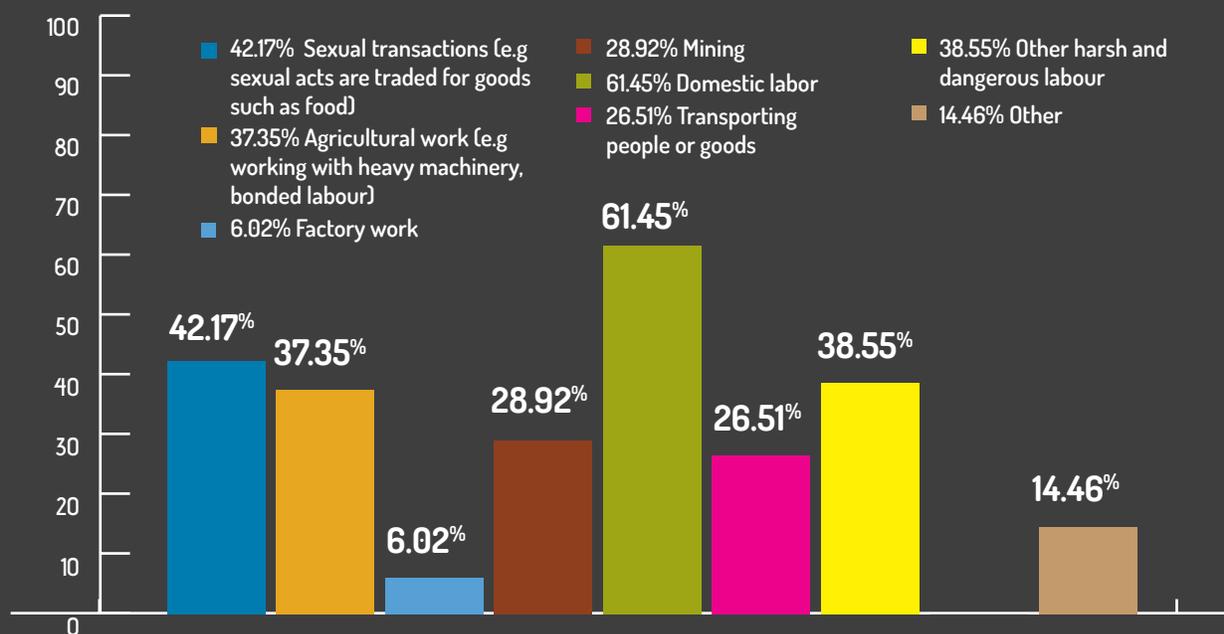
Regional information on child labour and El Niño indicates that drought can often result in children dropping out of school to become involved in child labour<sup>38</sup>. Following the onset of El Niño Zimbabwe has outlined some of anticipated and actual impact on child labour with the Child Protection Emergency Questionnaire; finding that children in child labour conditions within the community (herding livestock, looking after people's homesteads) was rated as the highest increase for both community and district<sup>39</sup>. Additionally, 6,000 children in Matabeleland North province have dropped out of school, citing hunger and the need to help out with house or farm work<sup>40</sup>, and a rapid assessment of institutions for children living with disabilities has also found that daily attendance has changed as children are joining families to search for food .

Malawi has also identified a key anticipated risk of child labour as a negative coping mechanism among households<sup>42</sup> and some Child Protection Committees have conducted sessions to combat school drop-out due to child labour through awareness raising<sup>43</sup>.

Sixty-nine per cent of the respondents agreed that children in their communities were involved in child labour (with 21.1% saying they didn't know and 9.6% saying no). Domestic labour was the most often cited, followed by sexual transactions (such as sex for food) and other harsh & dangerous labour (such as working away from home)

More than half of the respondents who agreed that children in their communities were involved in child labour, also believed that these cases of child labour had increased during the period of El Niño (58.6%), although this data was unable to be corroborated with agency or government data, with just

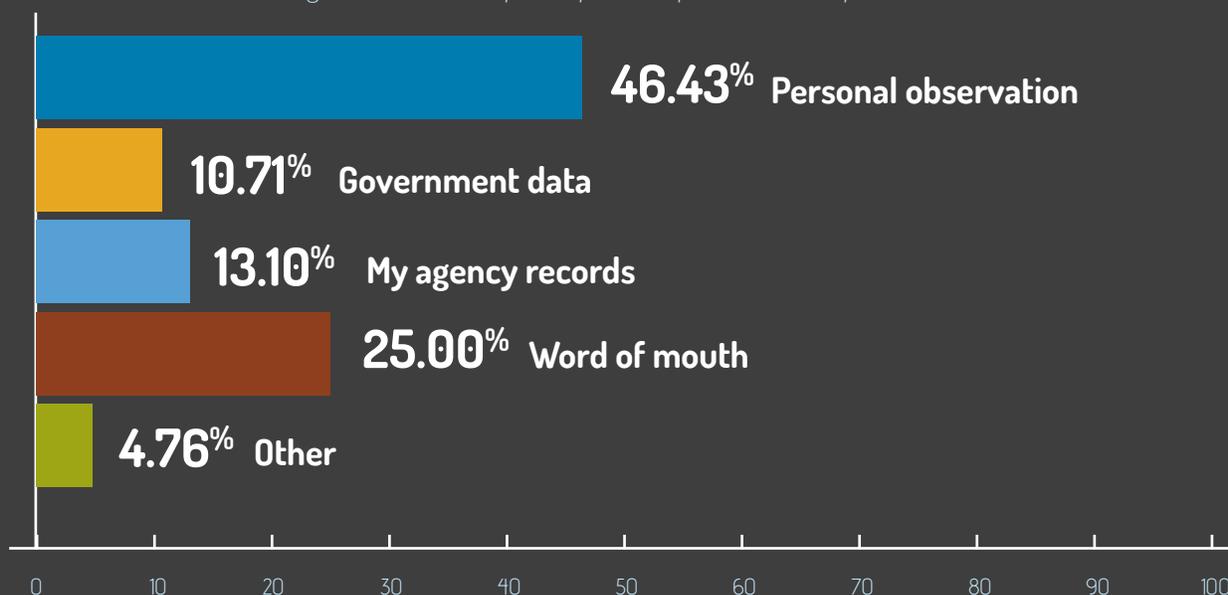
Figure 6: Types of labour that children are involved within communities



under half of the respondents who had identified an increase indicated that this was through personal observation.

Those impacted were marginally more likely to be boys than girls (32.7% versus 30.2%), and there was not thought to be any difference in whether children were younger or older than 14 years of age (no

Figure 7: Methods of identification of child labour information

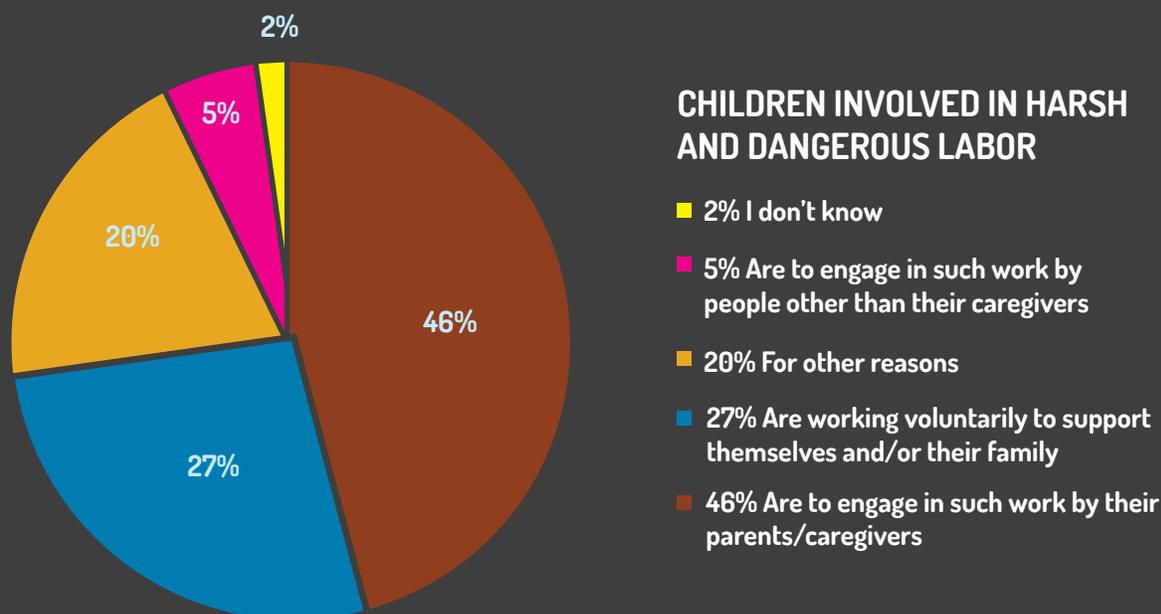


33. National Emergency Response, Mitigation and Adaptation Plan (NERMAP), Zimbabwe, 2015
34. Orphans and Vulnerable Children: Trends in School Access and Experience in Eastern and Southern Africa, Education Policy And Data Centre, FHI 360, 2010
35. [http://www.unicef.org/esaro/5481\\_girls\\_education.html](http://www.unicef.org/esaro/5481_girls_education.html) accessed 3 March 2016
36. Progress for Children: A report card on Child Protection, UNICEF, 2009
37. Responding to the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Emergencies, CPWG, 2015
38. A wake up call: El Niño 's impact on children, Briefing Note, Nov 2015, UNICEF
39. Child Protection Emergency Questionnaire, March 2016, UNICEF
40. OCHA, Draft Humanitarian Outlook for the Southern Africa Region

difference, 31%).

Turning to the reasons why children were involved in harsh and dangerous labour, the most cited reason was that they were sent to engage in work by their parents/caregivers, followed by working voluntarily to support themselves and/or families. This again corresponds to findings within the themes of UASC and migration.

Figure 8: Reasons why children are involved in harsh and dangerous labour



### School Drop Out

Through the secondary data review and through the PI and SEC we have some of the strongest data about the issue of school drop-out, and the reasons behind this.

Seventy-eight per cent of respondents said that school drop-out had increased since the start of El Niño. While there are numerous reports of schools closing due to lack of water or flooding, more CP specific patterns also emerge from this data. Specifically for El Niño there are concerns that reports about violence and abuse involving children are on the increase with the growing number of children unable to go to school<sup>44</sup>.

While lack of adequate food is the most commonly cited reason for school drop-out, the second most common is children being married (46.1%). Recent research indicates that we can anticipate an increase in child marriage when a crisis hits<sup>45</sup> and that child marriage can be seen as a coping strategy by parents in times of fragility<sup>46</sup>. Given the research on child marriage in emergencies, its frequency in the secondary data review under physical violence and HTP and its prioritisation within reasons for school drop-out in the PI, it would be recommended that further assessments in the El Niño context explicitly explore this issue, asking more specific questions such as the likelihood of children marrying younger or the specific increase in child marriage due to El Niño.

41. *Rapid Assessment of Institutions for CLWD in Zimbabwe, UNICEF, 2016*

42. *Malawi, Food Insecurity Response Plan for the Protection Cluster 2015-2016, Protection Cluster*

43. *Malawi Emergency Sit Rep No. 25, Nov, 2015, UNICEF*

44. *Southern Africa El Niño Emergency Response, Situation Report 3, 1 December, 2015, WV*

**Table 8: Reasons why children are dropping out of school**

Lack of adequate food for nutrition	71.4%
Lack of adequate water and sanitation sources	34%
Caregivers voluntarily withdrawing their children from school to stay at home	28.5%
Caregivers voluntarily withdrawing their children to stay with extended family/friends	28.5%
Caregivers voluntarily withdrawing their children to go work	43.9%
Children being married	46.1%
Children falling pregnant	45%
Other	14.2%

The third most cited reason was caregivers voluntarily withdrawing their children to go to work (46.1%). This evidence correlates with earlier findings through our evidence on UASC with caregivers sending children away to work, and an increase in child labour since El Niño.

The pattern of school drop-out was that just over half of respondents said that more girls than boys were impacted (50.4%) and that it mostly impacted primary school students (39.3%), reflecting a similar pattern that shows up in secondary data and that the media are noting also<sup>47</sup>.

### Identification of Priorities

As described in the methodology, identification of priorities, in the case of this early-stage CPRA, has involved a two-step process.

- i. Firstly the validation of issues in scenario workshops, and;
- ii. Secondly the validation of these issues in the SEC, where the final priorities were identified as regional priorities.

Validation workshops were held in all scenarios, with the exception of Angola, where there wasn't sufficient support in terms of capacity and time. A list of priorities by validation workshop is included in Annex 3.

### Prioritisation of Child Protection issues impacted by El Niño for Southern Africa

Three child protection issues have been prioritised as stand-alone, with one cross-cutting priority:

- Sexual Violence and Exploitation: specifically sexual exploitation relating to food and water, impacting girls under 14 years old
- School Drop-out: impacting primary school students and girls. High-lighting the issues of school drop-out due to lack of food, child marriage and care givers sending children to work
- Child Labour: impacting children aged 5-14 years, mainly boys and involved in domestic labour with a link to UASC

And the cross-cutting priority of:

- Psychosocial Distress and Mental Health: this has been agreed as a cross cutting issue that needs to be considered across programme and funding requests given the negative behavioural consequences for children and parent alike.

45. *To protect her honour*: Child marriage in emergencies – the fatal confusion between protecting girls and sexual violence, CARE, 2015

46. *Untying the Knot: Exploring Early Marriage in Fragile States*, WVI, 2013

47. <http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2016/mar/30/el-nino-worsens-drought-food-shortages-malawi-zimbabwe-podcast-transcript> (accessed 31 March 2016)

# Recommendations

## Recommendations to Regional Actors

1. That the Southern African Development Community (SADC) review their recent statement on progress and response to the impact of El Niño in the region, recognising the specific vulnerabilities of boys and girls under the age of 14 years old with regard to child labour, sexual exploitation and school drop-out. SADC should assess how the El Niño response can better reflect these needs and adapt to fully address the priority child protection concerns identified in the CPRA.
2. That SADC governments, recognises the need to scale up their efforts, given the El Niño context and this research, to deliver on their commitments to the African Union campaign to end child marriage, including the development and implementation of national strategies and comprehensive action plans that are costed and resourced in order to end child marriage and adolescent pregnancies through cross-sectorial collaboration, under the Sustainable Development Goals.



***SADC is urged to integrate child protection as an integral part of their humanitarian response to El Niño before, during and after the crisis.***

## Recommendations to Service Providers (Including Child Protection and other Sectors)

3. Service providers across sectors should ensure they uphold the relevant standards through their policies and programmes in accordance with The Minimum Standards for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action as they relate to key CP issues impacted by El Niño. Given the CP issues that have been highlighted through this early-stage CPRA this should include:
  - Standard 9: Sexual Violence
  - Standard 12: Child Labour
  - Standard 20: Education and Child Protection
  - Standard 23: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Child Protection
  - Standard 26 Distribution and Child Protection, to include in food and water distribution. Specifically:
    - Where food and water distribution is taking place within a community, service providers must ensure that all distributors, including community based volunteers, are trained in their obligations under the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on Protection from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation, and that either a code of conduct or a child safeguarding policy has been signed.

- Work with distribution teams and agencies to ensure that distribution is not putting children, especially girls under the age of 14 years old, at risk. Ensure distribution teams are aware of heightened risks for children in instances of sexual exploitation or 'sex for trade'
  - Set up a child-friendly procedure for grievances at food and water distribution points
4. There are clear links and opportunities for collaboration between the education and the child protection sector in addressing impacts of El Niño. Specifically these sectors should foster inter-sector actions and advocacy, such as:
- Hold joint forums with education and child protection clusters/working groups on CP issues impacted by El Niño and work together to develop action plans addressing commonalities and strengths of each sector
  - Advocate for an agreement of standard operating procedures in the case of school drop-out when a child is absent for 3 or more days, including identified pathways to bring children back to education
  - Share successful programming linking Child Protection and Education that demonstrates evidence for scalability and seek funding for this.
5. Agree on common multi-sectoral advocacy calls to government on school response programmes, ensuring that the most vulnerable are addressed through feeding programmes, provision of water and sanitation, and child protection.
6. That the child protection system is strengthened ensuring that mandated protection structures, community-based protection structures and child protection clusters/working groups, identify, refer and respond to cases of UASC, WFCL (including sexual exploitation), early marriage and violence against children.

## Recommendations to Donors including DfID, USAID, European Union

7. Before providing humanitarian assistance for El Niño response, donors must ensure that proposals submitted by organisation/s seeking funding clearly define how they have taken into account any child protection-related risks, in the context of the El Niño crisis, especially in the distribution of food and WASH facilities.
8. In providing humanitarian assistance for El Niño response, donors must ensure that sufficient funds are available to adequately plan for long-term (3-5 year) programmes that will address child protection related risks in the context of the El Niño crisis. This could include birth registration to be continued during this slow onset period, care of UASC, justice mechanisms, and strengthening child protection mechanisms, both formal and informal, that will respond to the needs of vulnerable children.
9. Continue to invest in Disaster Risk Reduction activities and Income Generating Activities, ensuring that risks for vulnerable children, such as child labour, particularly WFCL are prioritised and funded.
10. Donor governments' continued engagement with the African Union/SADC to recognise the impact of El Niño and support the scale up of programming for El Niño period taking into account the shortening of the El Niño cycle.

## Recommendations to Governments

11. That any further declaration of emergencies from governments in Southern Africa needs to include reference of how El Niño is impacting on child protection issues.
12. That governments who have declared an emergency include child protection considerations through further sectoral or multi-sectoral assessments and to ensure CP issues are included in long-term recovery programming, such as including appropriate skills development opportunities for child labour (domestic workers and transactional sex) and ensuring access to justice for sexual violence survivors.



▲ *This family lost their maize and millet plantation because of the drought.*

13. Expand social safety nets such as school feeding programmes. For targeting feeding programmes to include school going children, or to select households with school going children, pregnant or lactating mothers and for this to be completed by cooperatively working with INGOs and regional actors to scale, including provision of water, sanitation and protection.

implementing awareness campaigns that address sexual violence as a key fear in children’s lives, including risk factors that have been exacerbated by El Niño such as leaving children at home alone or school drop-out.

17. Ensure community and children’s’ voices are fully incorporated into discussions on food distribution and access to water points.

**Recommendations to all Actors, including Civil Society:**

- 14. Ensure communities are informed of service providers’ code of conduct or child safeguarding policies and how issues can be reported.
- 15. Conduct awareness campaigns on national law around child labour and domestic labour
- 16. Engage communities in designing and

# Annex 1: Practitioner Interview

## 1. Children Impacted by Migration

**1.1)** Have you seen children in the affected community/community you work in/your community migrating out of the communities with their families since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2015)?

- Yes       No       Don't know

[If "No" or "Don't know", skip to 2.1]

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**1.2)** (If "Yes" to 1.1) Roughly how many families have migrated out of the affected community/community you work in/your community?

- 1 - 10       11 - 20       21 - 50       51 - 100       Don't know  
 > 100 (please specify)
- 

**1.3)** [If "Yes" to 1.1 or "Don't know" to 1.2] What is the reason for children and families to be moving? (Tick all that applies)

1. lack of food for family members  
 2. failed crops  
 3. death of livestock  
 4. floods  
 5. drought  
 6. criminal acts (e.g. gang activities, looting, etc.)  
 7. unavailability of work  
 8. lack of water for family members  
 9. others. please specify

## 2. Unaccompanied and Separated Children

“Separated children” are children, who have been separated from both parents, or from their previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives. This could include children accompanied by other adult family members such as grandparents, aunties and uncles.

“Unaccompanied children” are children who have been separated from both parents and other relatives and are not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so such as the church, social workers or orphanages.

**2.1)** Have you heard or encountered children in the affected community/community you work in/ your community who have been separated from their usual caregivers since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2015)?

- Yes       No       Don't know

[If "No" or "Don't know", skip to 2.5]

**2.1.1)** [If "Yes" to 2.1] What do you think are the main causes of separations that occurred since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August2015)? (Tick all that applies)

- 1. losing caregivers/children during migration
- 2. caregivers voluntarily sending their children away due to lack of food
- 3. caregivers voluntarily sending their children away due to lack of water
- 4. caregivers voluntarily sending their children due to wanting them to work
- 5. children voluntarily leaving due to lack of food
- 6. children leaving due to lack of water
- 7. children voluntarily leaving to seek work
- 8. continued disappearance of children/caregivers (i.e. more recent disappearance)
- 9. other (please specify)

**2.1.2)** What are the typical care arrangements for children who have been separated from their usual caregivers since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August2015) in affected community/ community you work in/your community? (Tick all that applies)

- 1. formal/ governmental foster care arrangement outside the community
- 2. formal/ governmental foster care in the community
- 3. informal foster care in the community
- 4. children live on their own
- 5. children live with other siblings
- 6. children live on the street
- 7. children are sent to to extended family/friends
- 8. children are sent to work far from parents/usual caregivers
- 9. children marry into other families
- 10. other (please specify)

[If "Don't know", skip to 2.5.1]

How do you know this?

- personal observation       government data       word of mouth  
 my agency records       other agency records  
 other (please specify)

**2.4.2)** [If "Yes" to 2.4] Do you think that [Tick one]:

**2.4.2.1)**

- there are more unaccompanied girls than boys [or]  
 there are more unaccompanied boys than girls [or]  
 no clear difference

**2.4.2.2)**

- unaccompanied children are mainly under 5 [or]  
 unaccompanied children are mainly between 5 and 14 [or]  
 unaccompanied children are mainly 14 and older [or]  
 no clear difference

---

**2.5)** What services exist in affected community/community you work in/your community for separated children and unaccompanied children? (Tick all that applies)

1. community arranged care  
 2. temporary shelter  
 3. institutions/children homes (longer term accommodation)  
 4. identification, tracing, documentation and reunification services  
 5. active referral to other basic services such as health, education, water and sanitation, food, etc.

6. governmental services, specify

7. services provided by an agency/ NGO that deals with children, specify

8. no services available

don't know

other (please specify)

[If "Don't know", skip to 2.5.1]

How do you know this?

- personal observation       government data       word of mouth  
 my agency records       other agency records  
 other (please specify)

**2.4.2)** [If "Yes" to 2.4] Do you think that [Tick one]:

**2.4.2.1)**

- there are more unaccompanied girls than boys [or]  
 there are more unaccompanied boys than girls [or]  
 no clear difference

**2.4.2.2)**

- unaccompanied children are mainly under 5 [or]  
 unaccompanied children are mainly between 5 and 14 [or]  
 unaccompanied children are mainly 14 and older [or]  
 no clear difference

---

**2.5)** What services exist in affected community/community you work in/your community for separated children and unaccompanied children? (Tick all that applies)

1. community arranged care  
 2. temporary shelter  
 3. institutions/children homes (longer term accommodation)  
 4. identification, tracing, documentation and reunification services  
 5. active referral to other basic services such as health, education, water and sanitation, food, etc.

6. governmental services, specify

7. services provided by an agency/ NGO that deals with children, specify

8. no services available

don't know

other (please specify)

**2.5.1** If option 2 or 3 (temporary shelter and/or institutions) was mentioned above, provide some details about the location and services provided:

Contact info for person in charge of institution (if available):

### 3. Dangers and Injuries; Physical Violence; and Other Harmful Practices

3.1) What are the risks that can lead to death or injury of children in as they relate to the since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August2015) in the affected community/community you work in/your community? (Tick all that applies)

- 1. environmental risks at home and outside (e.g. accidents, open pit latrines, riversides, dangerous animals, etc)
  - 2. civil violence (e.g. religious, clan, election, fighting over food/water resources)
  - 3. sexual violence (e.g. rape, touching, etc.)
  - 4. famine/starvation
  - 5. children voluntarily leaving due to lack of food
  - 6. water-borne disease
  - 7. harmful traditional practices (please specify)
  
  - 8. criminal acts (e.g. gang activities, looting, etc.)
  - 9. severe corporal punishment
  - 10. work-related accidents (e.g farming, operating danger equipment, mining)
  - 11. car accidents
  - 12. violence related to substance abuse (use of alcohol or drugs)
  - 13. severe Neglect
  - don't Know
  - other (please specify)
- 

3.2) Where do you think these risks are high/highest for children? (Tick all that applies)

- 1. at home
- 2. in school
- 3. on the way to school
- 4. at work
- 5. on the way to work
- 6. at the market
- 7. on the way to market
- 8. at water collection points
- 9. on the way to water collection points
- 10. at food collection points
- 11. on the way to food collection points
- don't know
- other (please specify)

---

**3.3)** Can you estimate the number of deaths and serious injuries to children due to any and all of the above causes since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2015)?

Deaths

- 0       1-5       6-10       11-20       21-50  
 don't know  
 >50 (Specify)

Deaths

- 0       1-5  
 6-10       11-20  
 21-50       don't know [If "don't know", skip to 3.4]  
 >50 (Specify)

How do you know this?

- personal observation       government data       my agency records  
 word of mouth  
 existing list (specify source)

other (please specify)

---

**3.4)** Are there children in this area who have been committing acts of violence since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2015)?

- Yes  
 No  
 Don't know (If "No" or "Don't know", skip to 3.6)
- 

**3.5)** [If 'Yes' to 3.4] What kind of violence are children participating in? (Tick all that applies)

- gang activities  
 civil violence (e.g. fighting over food/water resources)  
 attack on schools and/or community infrastructure  
 looting and/or pillage  
 sexual assault  
 don't know  
 other (please specify)

---

**3.6)** Have you noticed any change in the way caregivers are looking after young children since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop?

- Yes       No       Don't know

**3.6.1)** [If "Yes" to 3.6] What sorts of changes have you seen in caregivers looking after young children? (Tick all that applies)

- children are getting less food in their families compared to adults
- children are getting less to drink
- parents are spending less time with children
- children are spending more time alone (eg in their home, in the community)
- children are being bathed less regularly
- parents are shouting at children more
- don't know
- other (please specify)

#### 4. Sexual Violence

**Please be reminded that while this is a sensitive issue all responses are confidential**

Please note, Sexual Violence is defined as: rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization or any other form of sexual violence. (UN General Assembly's definition, 2012). In this survey it refers to sexual violence against children.

**4.1)** Do you think the number of sexual violence incidents has increased since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2016)?

- Yes       No       Don't know

**4.1.1)** In which situations does sexual violence occur more often? (Tick all that applies)

1. while at home
2. while collecting firewood
3. while at school
4. while playing around the camp/village
5. on the way to school
6. when at workplace
7. while collecting water
8. while working in the fields
9. during population movement
10. while collecting food
11. in common areas, such as around latrines/showers, etc.
- don't know
- other (please specify)
- 

**4.2)** Who is most affected by sexual violence? (Tick one option)

**4.2.1)**

- more girls are being targeted for sexual violence than boys (or)
- more boys are being targeted for sexual violence than girls (or)
- no difference
- don't know

**4.2.1)**

- mostly younger children (under 14) are targeted for sexual violence (or)
- mostly older children (over 14) are targeted for sexual violence (or)
- no difference
- don't know
- 

**4.3)** Do you think the number of sexual exploitation incidents, where children are paid for sexual activity in exchange for goods or money, has increased since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2016)?

- Yes       No       Don't know

**4.3.1)** Do you think the number of sexual exploitation incidents, where children are paid for sexual activity in exchange for goods or money, has increased since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2016)?

food             water             don't know

other (please specify)

**4.3.2)** In which situations does sexual exploitation occur more often? (Tick all that applies)

- 1. while at home
- 2. while collecting firewood
- 3. while at school
- 4. while playing around the camp/village
- 5. on the way to school
- 6. when at workplace
- 7. while collecting water
- 8. while working in the fields
- 9. during population movement
- 10. while collecting food
- 11. in common areas, such as around latrines/showers, etc.
- don't know

other (please specify)

---

**4.4)** Who is most affected by sexual exploitation? (Tick one option)

**4.4.1)**

- more girls are being targeted for sexual violence than boys (or)
- more boys are being targeted for sexual violence than girls (or)
- no difference
- don't know

**4.4.1)**

- mostly younger children (under 14) are targeted for sexual exploitation (or)
  - mostly older children (over 14) are targeted for sexual exploitation (or)
  - no difference
  - don't know
- 

**4.5)** If a child or an adolescent is a victim of sexual violence or sexual exploitation, is it culturally acceptable that s/he would normally seek help?

- Yes
  - No
  - Don't know (If "No" or "Don't know", skip to 4.6)
-

**4.6)** How do the people in the affected community/community you work in/your community typically react to cases of sexual violence? (Tick all that applies)

- 1. blame the child who is violated or exploited
  - 2. punish the child who is violated or exploited
  - 3. punish perpetrator
  - 4. try to mediate so that the issue can be resolved 'peacefully'
  - 5. force girl to marry perpetrator (if victim is an unmarried girl)
  - 6. involve police/justice system
  - 7. involve social welfare /social workers
  - 8. involve local authorities
  - 9. they don't do anything
  - 10. managed within the family
  - 11. provide care to the victim (specify type of care)
  
  - other (please specify)
  - don't know
- 

**4.7)** Are there places in the affected community/community you work in/your community where survivors of Sexual Violence and Sexual Exploitation can seek professional help?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know (if "No" or "Don't know", skip to next section)

**4.7.1)** [If "Yes" to 4.7] Can children also seek help in that place?

- Yes       No
- Don't know (comments)

## 5. Psychosocial Distress and Community Support Mechanisms

**5.1)** Have you observed or heard of signs of psychosocial distress (e.g., significant changes in children's mood, behaviours, self-care, academic capacity or other areas of functioning) among children since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2015)?

- Yes  No  
 Don't know (If "No" or "Don't know", skip to 5.2]

(If "Yes" to 5.1)

**5.1.1)** What kind of negative behaviour changes have you noticed in children since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2015)? (Tick all that applies)

1. excessive crying and/or screaming
2. aggressive behaviour
3. violence against younger children
- 4 committing crimes
5. unwillingness to go to school
6. less willingness to help caregivers and siblings
7. disrespectful behaviour in the family
8. sadness (e.g. not talking, not playing, etc.)
9. substance abuse, such as alcohol or other drugs other (please specify)
10. having nightmares and/or not being able to sleep
11. social Withdrawal (isolating themselves from others)
12. engaging in high risk sexual behavior
13. wanting to join/joining armed forces
14. no change
- don't know
- other (please specify)
-

**5.1.2) What kind of positive behaviour changes have you noticed in children since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2015)? (Tick all that applies)**

- 1. spending more time with friends
- 2. spending more time on sport and playing
- 3. caring for others in the community
- 4. helping parent more than before
- 5. attending school regularly/interested in education
- 6. attending religious activities regularly/more
- 7. no change
- don't know

other (please specify)

---

**5.2) What do you think makes children stressed most? (Tick all that applies)**

- 1. home duties (eg collecting water, cooking, cleaning)
- 2. trafficking
- 3. not being able to go back to school
- 4. not being able to return home
- 5. losing their belongings
- 6. being separated from their friends
- 7. being separated from their families
- 8. tension within the family
- 9. sexual violence
- 10. extra work that is difficult for their age
- 11. lack of shelter
- 12. going far from home for work
- 13. lack of food
- 14. bullying
- don't know

other (please specify)

**5.3)** What do you think are the main sources of stress for caregivers in the community? (Tick all that applies)

- 1. lack of food
  - 2. lack of shelter
  - 3. lack of water
  - 4. loss of livestock
  - 5. loss of property
  - 6. lost livelihood
  - 7. children's safety
  - 8. violence within community
  - 9. children's behaviour
  - 10. not being able to return home (if displaced)
  - 11. being separated from their community
  - 12. inability to carry out cultural or religious rituals (e.g. proper burial rituals)
  - don't know
  - other (please specify)
- 

**5.4)** Are there services or activities available in the affected community/community you work in/your community to support children cope with stress?

- Yes  No
- Don't know [If "No" or "Don't know", skip to 6.1]

**5.4.1)** (If yes to 5.4) What kind of services are available to children? (Tick all that applies)

- 1. children's programs (e.g. children's clubs, youth clubs)
- 2. individual counseling
- 3. group counseling
- 4. general social welfare services (gov't)
- 5. vocational and/extra curricular activities
- 6. counseling services for parents
- 7. religious activities
- 8. other support services for parents (please specify)
- don't know
- other (please specify)

## 6. Protecting Excluded Children

**6.1)** Do all children (including girls, boys of different ages and children of different ethnic, religious and tribal groups) have equal access to existing services?

Yes       No       Don't know

**6.1.1)** (If "No" to 6.1) What is the basis of exclusion for those children who do not have access? (Tick all that applies)

1. ethnicity

(specify ethnic group that are excluded)

2. religion

(specify religious groups that are excluded)

3. language group

(specify language groups that are excluded)

4. age

(specify ages that are excluded )

5. sex

(specify boys or girls are excluded)

6. children with disabilities

(specify the type of disability)

- 7. children living with disabled caregivers
  - 8. children living with HIV/AIDS
  - 9. children living with elderly caregivers
  - 10. children from poor households
  - 11. children living in female headed households (e.g. single mothers)
  - don't know
  - other characteristics (please specify)
- 

**6.2)** Are there children who are experiencing other types of exclusions or discrimination in the affected community/community you work in/your community?

- Yes       No       Don't know

**6.2.1)** (If yes to 6.2) Please explain type of exclusion and/or discrimination:

## 7. Child Labor

**7.1)** Are there any children in the affected community/community you work in/your community who are involved in types of work that are harsh and dangerous for them (hazardous labour)?

- Yes  No
- Don't know (If "No" or "Don't know", go to 8.1)

**7.1.1)** (If yes to 7.1) What types of work are these children involved in? (Tick all that applies)

1. sexual transactions (e.g sexual acts are traded for goods such as food)
2. agricultural work (e.g working with heavy machinery, bonded labour)
3. factory work
4. mining
5. domestic labour
6. transporting people or goods
7. other harsh and dangerous labour (e.g. working in an unhealthy environment, working away from home)
- don't know
- other (please specify)

**7.1.2)** Based on your observation and/or hearsay and/or knowledge do you think the number children in the affected community/community you work in/your community who are involved in the types of work mentioned above since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2015): (Single option)

- increased
- has not increased
- decreased
- don't know (if "don't know", skip to 7.2)

How do you know this? (Single option)

- personal observation
- government data
- my agency records
- word of mouth
- other (please specify)

**7.1.3)** Who is most affected by harsh and hazardous labour? (Tick one option)

- more girls than boys (or)
- more boys than girls (or)

**7.1.3.1)**

- no difference
- do not know
- mostly younger children (under 14) [or]
- mostly older children (14 and over) [or]

**7.1.3.2)**

- no difference
  - do not know
- 

**7.2)** Do you know if the majority of children who are involved in harsh and dangerous labour (Tick one option)

- 1. are working voluntarily to support themselves and/or their families
- 2. are sent to engage in such work by their parents/caregivers
- 3. are sent to engage in such work by people other than their caregivers

(please give examples)

- 4. for other reasons

(please specify)

- don't know

## 8. School Dropout

**8.1)** Do you think the number of children dropping out of school has increased since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2015)?

- Yes                       No (If "No" go to 8.4)                       Don't know
- 

**8.2)** (If "Yes" to 8.1) Can you estimate the number children in the affected community/community you work in/ your community who have dropped out of school since the start of the food insecurity/drought/loss of crop/due to El Niño (August 2015)?

- 1-5                       6-10                       11-20                       21-50                       don't know
- >50 (please specify)

How do you know this?

- personal observation
- government data
- my agency records
- word of mouth
- other (please specify)
- 

**8.3)** (If "Yes" to 8.1) What are the reasons children are dropping out of school (Tick all that applies)

1. lack of adequate food for nutrition
2. lack of adequate water and sanitation sources
3. caregivers voluntarily withdrawing their children from school to stay at home
4. caregivers voluntarily withdrawing children in order to send to extended family/friends
5. caregivers voluntarily withdrawing children in order to work
6. children being married
7. children falling pregnant/giving birth
- other (please specify)
- 

**8.4)** Who is most affected by school drop out? (Tick one)

**8.4.1)**

- more girls than boys (or)                       more boys than girls (or)                       no difference
- don't know

**8.4.2)**

- mostly primary school children (or)                       mostly secondary school children (or)
- no difference                       don't know

## Annex 2: Country Focal Point ToR

We are proposing 6 Scenarios:

1. Angola
2. DRC
3. Mozambique
4. South Africa, Lethoto and Swaziland
5. Zambia & Malawi
6. Zimbabwe

For each scenario we would like to have **one focal point person**. This person will be split across the 4 participating agencies; World Vision, Save the Children, UNICEF and Plan (perhaps 2 per agency).

We see this person as having two key roles in the work:

1. Key focal point for the Practitioner Interviews (PI)

We will aim to have a minimum of 30 PIs for each scenario. This will include sub-scenarios dependent on number of areas affected by El Niño

PIs are expected to be completed online using SurveyMonkey. For this task the key focal point will need to ensure that the PIs are completed, the CPRA coordinator will be able to communicate any outstanding PIs to the focal point person. For those PIs that are unable to be completed online the focal point person will need to scan any hard copies of the SurveyMonkey survey and send to the CPRA coordinator.

Timing: The SurveyMonkey will be live from 15<sup>th</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> March. The focal point person will need ensure that hard copies are received for PIs by 18<sup>th</sup> February and that any responses are scanned to the CPRA coordinator by 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

2. Coordinate a Scenario level CPRA interpretation workshop

Given the 6 different contexts, unlike a normal CPRA we will be unable to hold 1 interpretation workshop. The focal point person will be expected to hold an interpretation workshop to discuss indicative findings from 2 reports (the Secondary Data Review and the Practitioner Interviews). The interpretation workshops will bring together key participants from the process to discuss and agree key Child Protection issues and programmatic recommendations.

The focal point person will then be expected to travel and participate in the Structured Expert Consultation, to be held for 2 days in Johannesburg. This will bring together all 6 focal point people for the 6 scenarios in order to produce a regional report.

Timing: Draft SDR & PI reports to be sent by 9<sup>th</sup> March. The interpretation workshop will be held between 10-11 or 14-15 March with the final SEC to be held 16-17 March.

## Annex 3: Issues Identified by Validation workshops

CP Priorities identified by County Validation workshops	
Angola	Unable to complete
DRC	School Drop Out) Psychosocial Distress and Mental Health
Lesotho	Psychosocial Distress and Mental Health Separation of children Sexual & Physical Abuse Strengthening referral mechanisms
Malawi	Sexual and Physical Violence (linked to child marriage) Psychosocial Distress and Mental Health Separation (linked to child labour)
Mozambique	School Drop outs Transactional Sex (Sexual Violence & Sexual Exploitation)
Zimbabwe	Separation Child Marriage & Pregnancies (Sexual Violence) Psychosocial Distress and Mental Health Strengthening community based monitoring mechanism

# Definitions

**Child** - Any person under the age of 18 Separated children – Any child separated from both parents, or from previous legal or customary primary caregiver, but not necessarily from other relatives. This may, therefore, include children accompanied by other adult family members.

**Unaccompanied children** - Any child who has been separated from both parents and other relatives and is not being cared for by an adult who, by law or custom, is responsible for doing so. Orphans are children, both of whose parents are known to be dead. In some countries, however, a child who has lost one parent is called an orphan. For the purposes of this assessment orphans are children who lost both parents

**Physical violence** is the deliberate use of force on a child's body which may result in injury, e.g. hitting, burning, shaking, choking

**Sexual abuse/violence** is any sexual activity, including inappropriate touching or rape, where the child does not fully comprehend, or is unable to give informed consent (under the legal age for consent)

**Neglect** - act of omission, failure to provide for the child's basic needs. This can include: Physical neglect, the failure to adequately meet the child's needs for, for example, nutrition, clothing, health care, and protection from harm; and/or Emotional neglect, the failure to satisfy the developmental needs of a child by denying the child an appropriate level of affection, care, education and security.

**Exploitation** is the abuse of a child where some form of remuneration is involved whereby the perpetrators benefit in some manner – monetarily, socially, politically, etc. Exploitation constitutes a form of coercion and violence, detrimental to the child's physical and mental health, development, and education.

**Worse Forms of Child Labour** is defined by the International Labour Organisation as (a) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; (b) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances; (c) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties; (d) work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children. Labour that jeopardises the physical, mental or moral well-being of a child, either because of its nature or because of the conditions in which it is carried out, is known as "hazardous work". Harmful traditional practices – Practices that are harmful to children and defended on the basis of tradition, culture, or religion by some community members



